

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action has been carefully reviewed in light of the newly cited references and the Examiner's comments, and accordingly, applicant has combined the structure of allowable claim 2 with claim 25 and presented the combined claims as new claim 28 which should be allowable. Applicant is also replacing claims 23, 25 and 27 with new claims 28, 29 and 30 to distinguish applicant's invention more clearly and to place these claims in condition for allowance with claims 10, 15-22, 24 and 26, the allowance of which is noted. Allowed claim 24, which is directed to the embodiment of FIG. 4, has also been amended to correct a double inclusion of structure since the deleted structure is set forth more specifically at the end of the claim wherein each of the sub-sash frame members (50') includes integrally connected and parallel spaced longitudinally extending wall portions (78) projecting laterally inwardly between the edge portions of the glass panels (36, 38) and bonded to the edge portions of both glass panels.

Referring to new claim 29, applicant's window assembly sets forth, with respect to FIGS. 1-3, that the sash frame members (14, 16) of the outer sash frame (12) including integral flange portions (22) projecting laterally inwardly and overlapping a peripheral edge portion of the outer glass panel (38), a seal (26) connecting the flange portions of the outer sash frame members to the outer glass panel, a rectangular inner sub-sash frame (50) disposed within the outer sash frame (12) and including elongated sub-sash frame members (52, 54) comprising extruded rigid plastics material, the sub-sash frame members including laterally inwardly projecting integral flange portions (62) overlapping a peripheral edge portion of the outer glass panel (38), a bonding material (66) securing the flange portions (62) of the sub-sash frame members to the peripheral edge portion of the outer glass panel (38), a set of removable elongated glazing members (72, 74) of extruded plastics material, the glazing members including laterally inwardly projecting flange portions (76) overlapping a peripheral edge portion of the inner glass panel (36), the glazing members including retaining portions engaging (31) the outer sash frame, and each

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of the sub-sash frame members (52, 54) including a base portion (56) closely surrounding and covering peripheral edge surfaces of the glass panels.

Applicant has carefully reviewed the disclosures of Endo et al '518, Heikkila '981 and Grether et al '112 and is unable to find any suggestion or teaching in any of the references of a window assembly including the above structure set forth in new claim 29. For example, the second window frame 4 of Endo et al '518 is connected by hinges 6 (FIG. 2) to the first window frame 2 for pivoting outwardly from the wall 8, as is common in a casement window, and the outer sash frame 2 does not have an integral flange portion which overlaps and is sealed to the outer glass panel. There is no suggestion of applicant's sub-sash frame (50 or 50') and its relation to the outer sash frame 12. One of the important and very desirable advantages of applicant's picture window assembly, as emphasized at the bottom of page 5, is that moisture from the outside is prevented from seeping into the space 46 between the glass panels by not only the seal 26 and the bonding material 44 surrounding the spacer frame 42 between the glass panels, but also by the bonding compound 66 which seals the flange 62 of each sub-sash member to the outer glass panel 38. No such feature is provided by the window frame structure of Endo et al '518, and Heikkila has no sub-sash frame.

The above comments also apply to new claim 30 which includes substantially the same structure as claim 29, but is specifically directed to the embodiment of FIGS. 1-3. That is, claim 30 further includes the above structure in combination with the conventional structure of the rectangular spacer frame 42 disposed between the peripheral edge portions of the glass panels, and a bonding material 44 surrounding the spacer member and bonded to the edge portions of both glass panels.

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes that each of new claims 28, 29 and 30 and the claims dependent therefrom defines a window assembly which is clearly distinguished from the references. Accordingly, applicant believes that these

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claims are in condition for allowance with claims 10, 15 - 22, 24 and 26, and respectfully requests that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan Meckstroth".

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